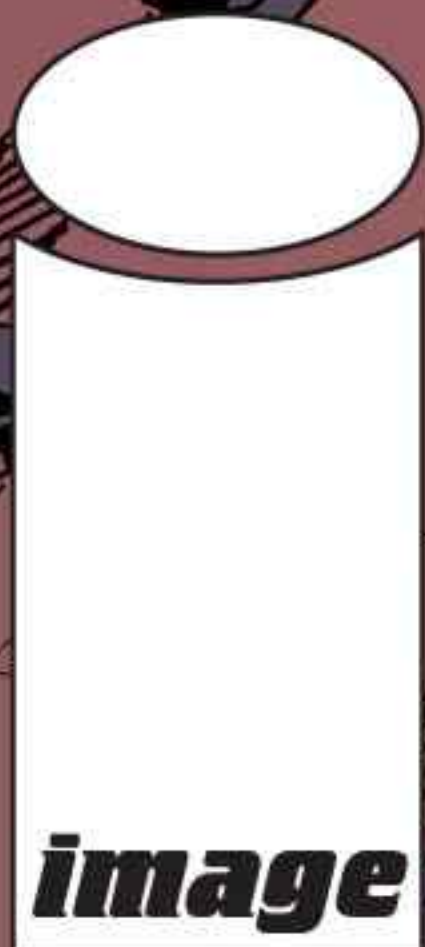


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24

INVINCIBLE™



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INVINCIBLE™

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RYAN OTTLEY
PENCILER & INKER

BILL CRABTREE
COLORIST

RUS WOOTON
LETTERER

CREATED BY ROBERT KIRKMAN & CORY WALKER



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HEY,
UH--YOU
CHANGED
MY
BOOTS?

YEAH, I WANTED TO
SIMPLIFY THE DESIGN
A BIT. SIMPLE IS IN THIS
YEAR, Y'KNOW. THAT
LITTLE SQUARE OF BLACK
CLOTH SHOWING THROUGH
DIDN'T MAKE A WHOLE LOT
OF SENSE--IT WAS KINDA
LIKE SAYING "LOOK, WEAK
SPOT HERE" OR
SOMETHING.

ALSO, IT'S
A LOT EASIER
TO SUPPORT
THE KNEEPAD
NOW THAT
THERE'S A
WHOLE BOOT
UNDER IT.



THAT'S COOL.
I LIKE IT. NOT
BAD.

THIS ONE
ISN'T GOING
TO GET ALL
RIPPED UP, IS
IT? I THOUGHT
THESE NEW
ONES WEREN'T
SUPPOSED
TO RIP.



I DON'T REALLY
KNOW WHAT TO TELL
YOU ON THAT FRONT.
THAT FABRIC WAS
SOLD TO ME AS
UNRIPPABLE--IT WAS
A GOVERNMENT
CLOSEOUT--IT'S
PROBABLY
CRAP.

I MADE THIS
ONE FROM A
DIFFERENT ROLL...
MAYBE THE
OTHER BATCH
WAS BAD.



MARK--UM--
WHEN'S THE
LAST TIME YOU
TALKED TO YOUR
MOTHER?

UH...

I DON'T KNOW, A WEEK... TWO?

TRY A MONTH. FOR A NORMAL COLLEGE KID THAT WOULDN'T BE A BIG DEAL, YOU'RE GROWING UP--IT'S GOOD TO GET AWAY FROM THE NEST-- BUT, SON--SHE KNOWS YOU CAN COME VISIT HER IN A SPLIT SECOND.



IT'S HURTING HER.

I KNOW--I KEEP MEANING TO SEE HER BUT THEN SOMETHING COMES UP. AND THAT HOUSE-- IT'S GOT SO MANY MEMORIES. SINCE I GOT OUT OF IT, I'VE BEEN ABLE TO PUT THINGS OUT OF MY MIND.



I'M RELUCTANT TO GO BACK.

SHE'S YOUR MOTHER, MARK. GO SEE HER.



I KNOW. I'M SORRY, ART-- YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL GO SEE HER AS SOON AS I'M DONE HERE.



IT'LL DO YOU GOOD TO GET OUT OF THAT DORM ROOM, AWAY FROM ALL THE PARTIES AND WHATEVER ELSE IS GOING ON THERE.



HEH--I'VE BEEN AWAY FROM MY DORM ROOM PLENTY.

I DIDN'T EVEN SLEEP THERE LAST NIGHT.



OH?



WELL! I MEAN! UH! IT'S JUST THAT MY GIRLFRIEND AND I-- UM--NO, UH. I--UH.

UM...



YOU CAN STOP RIGHT THERE, MARK. I DON'T NEED TO HEAR ANY MORE THAN THAT.



YOU'RE AT A GOOD AGE FOR THAT--JUST BE CAREFUL. YOU SEEM HAPPY. IT'S A GOOD LOOK FOR YOU--A WELCOME CHANGE.

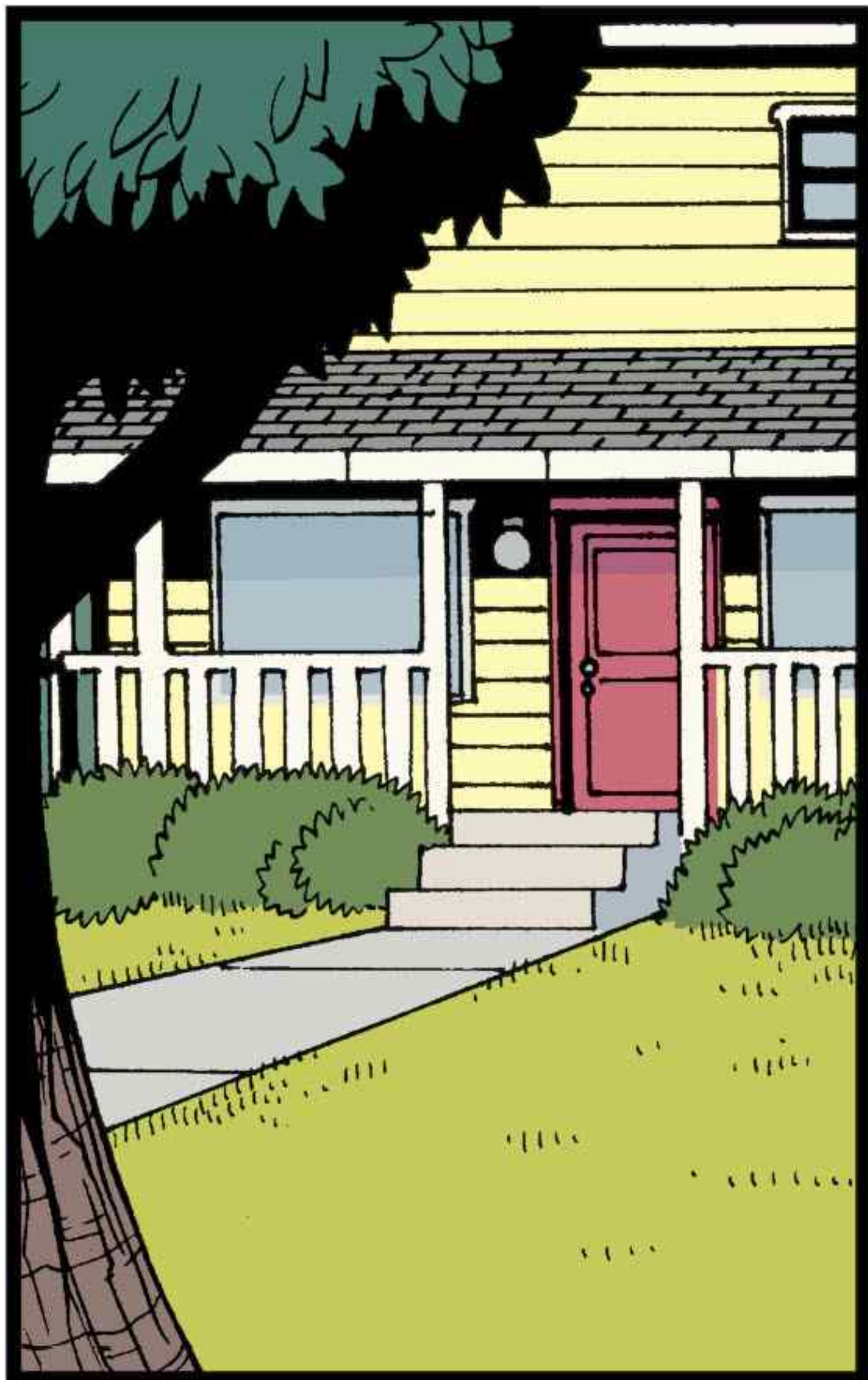
HAPPY?



YEAH...

I GUESS I AM.









"I'VE GOT PLANS ALREADY, SORRY." SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY PLANS, STUPID SL--



OH, AND WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN?!



ME? NOWHERE. WHY DO YOU ASK?



I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU OR RICK SINCE WE SAW THAT MOVIE LAST NIGHT. I THOUGHT YOU TWO MIGHT HAVE ELOPED. WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?



NOWHERE. NOW LEAVE ME ALONE. I'M DOWNLOADING MY ASSIGNMENTS FROM TODAY.



WHERE'VE YOU BEEN? WHY ARE YOU SMILING LIKE THAT?

OH MY GOD! YOU MADE UP WITH AMBER-- YOU WERE WITH HER!

YOU GUYS FINALLY DID IT!



NO WE DIDN'T!



WE DID MAKE UP THOUGH. I STAYED IN HER ROOM LAST NIGHT.



BUT YOU DIDN'T--?



NO, WE DIDN'T-- HOLD ON.

WE NEED YOU, KID.

I'M ON MY WAY.



WHAT WAS THAT?

NO TIME.

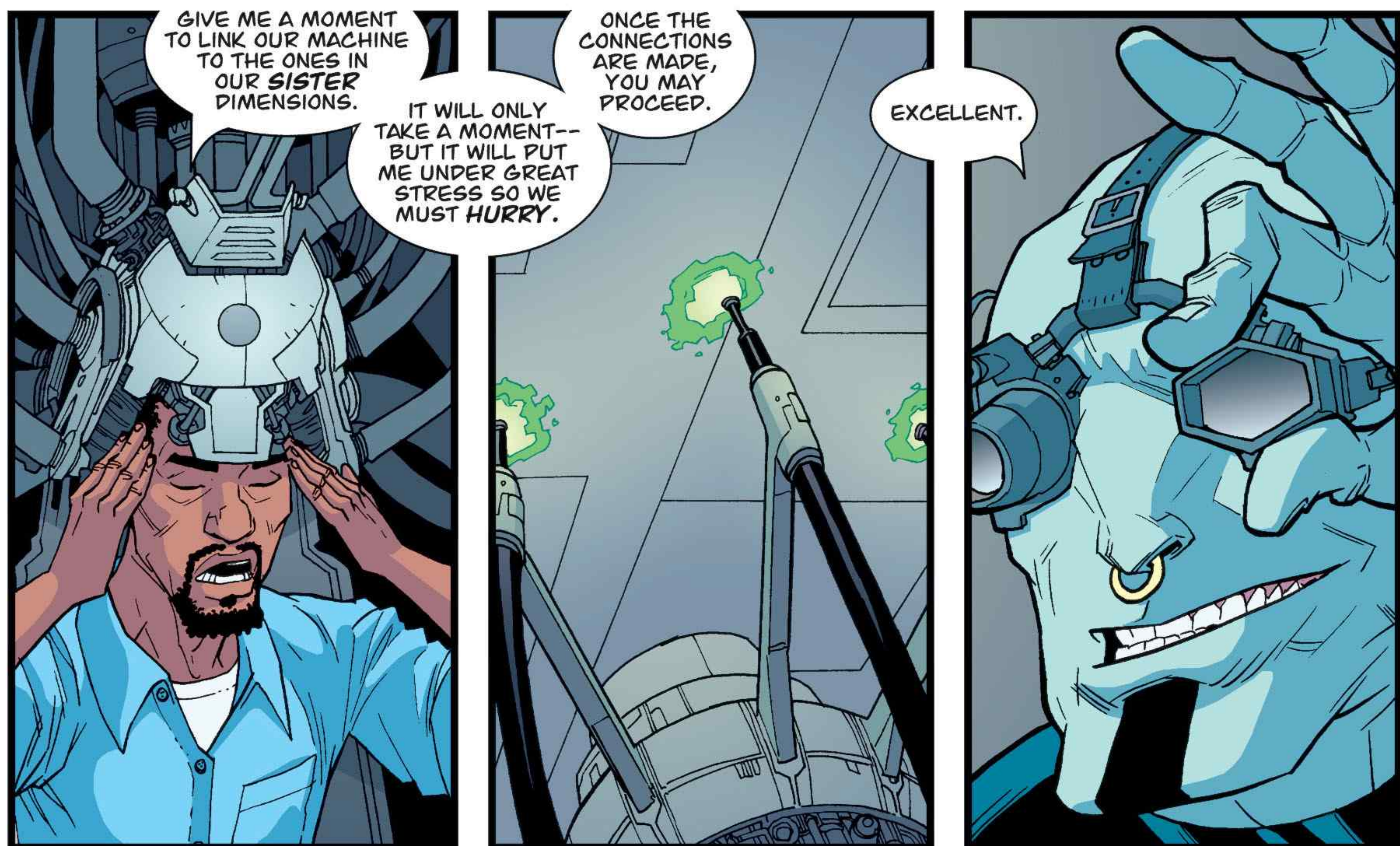


FINE, GO. NO, DON'T EVEN SAY GOOD-BYE.

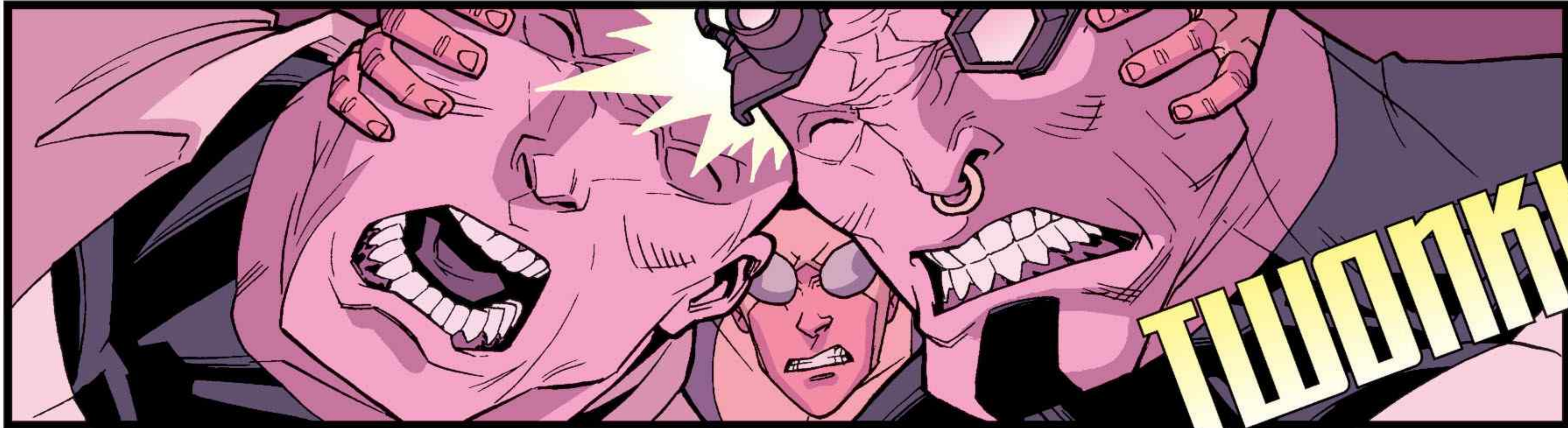


TIME
TO MAKE
THE
DONUTS.

I THINK
I SPEAK ON
BEHALF OF BOTH
OF US WHEN I
SAY IT HAS BEEN
AN HONOR TO WORK
ON SUCH A PROJECT
WITH YOU,
**ANGSTROM
LEVY.**







TIWONKI!



WHEN YOU GUYS WAKE UP--YOU'RE GOING TO BE SO IMPRESSED.



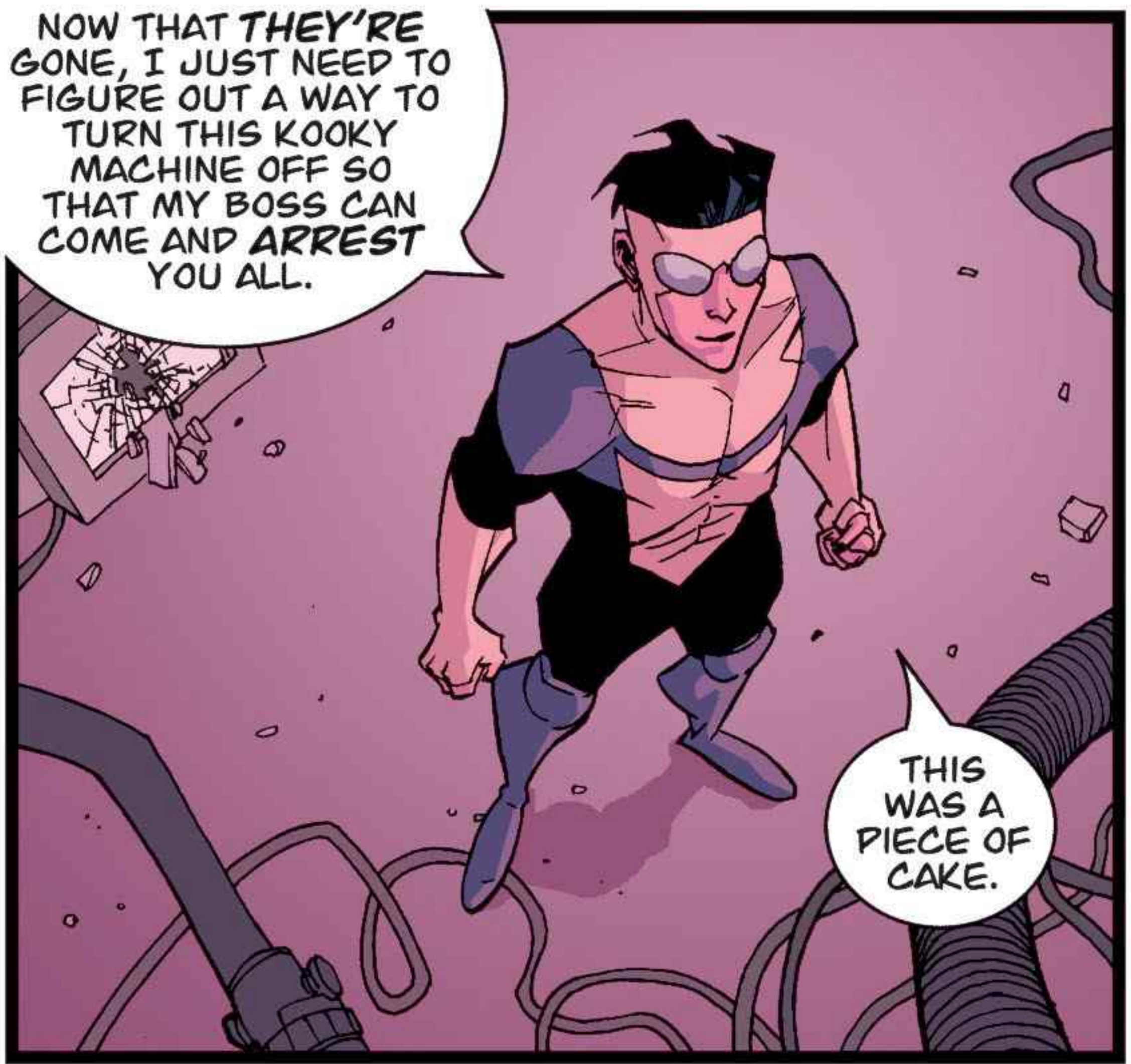
KRAK!



KRAK!

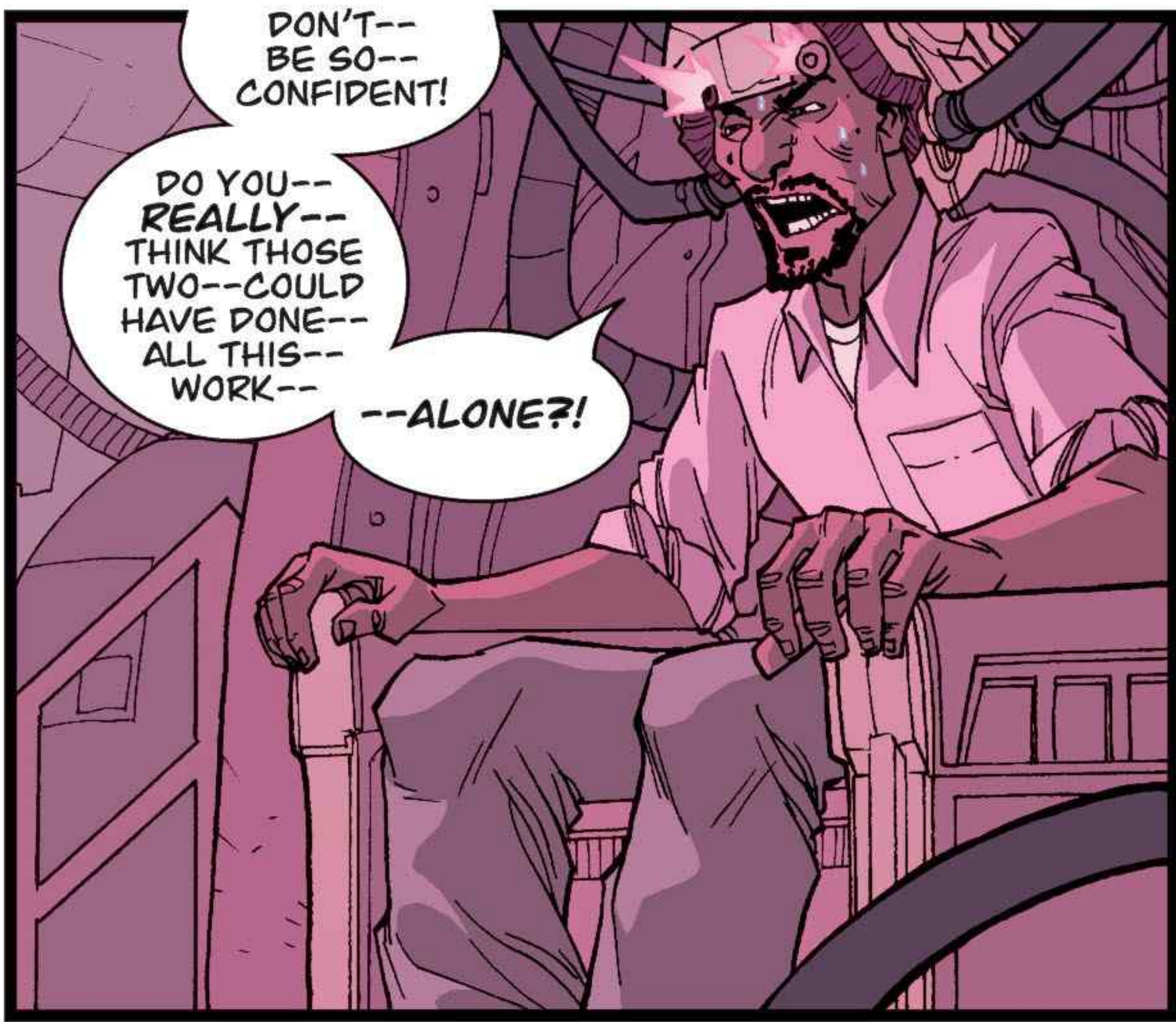


SKRROOM!!



NOW THAT THEY'RE GONE, I JUST NEED TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO TURN THIS KOOKY MACHINE OFF SO THAT MY BOSS CAN COME AND ARREST YOU ALL.

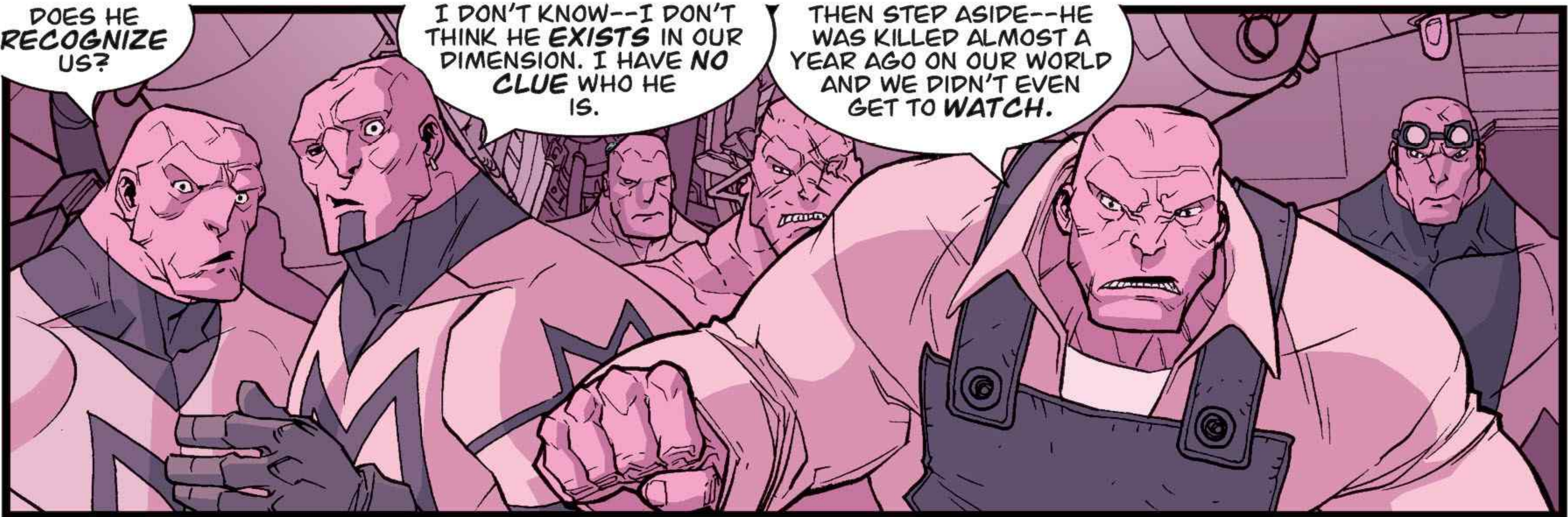
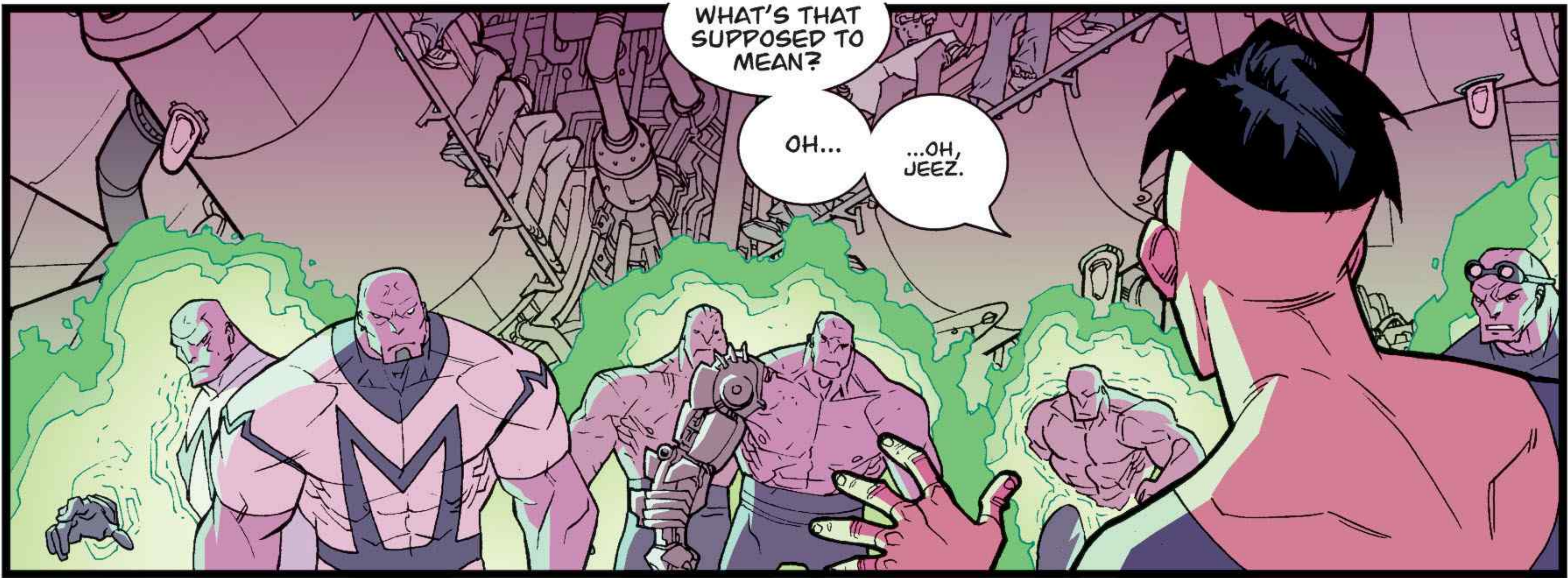
THIS WAS A PIECE OF CAKE.



DO YOU-- REALLY-- THINK THOSE TWO-- COULD HAVE DONE-- ALL THIS-- WORK--

--ALONE?!

DON'T-- BE SO-- CONFIDENT!





STAY BACK!

THAT WAS AN IMPRESSIVE PUNCH. IT'S A GOOD THING HE WASN'T ALONE.

GOOD FOR US, I MEAN.

KRAK!



YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY THAT EASY!!

WE'RE NOT DONE WITH YOU BY A LONG SHOT!

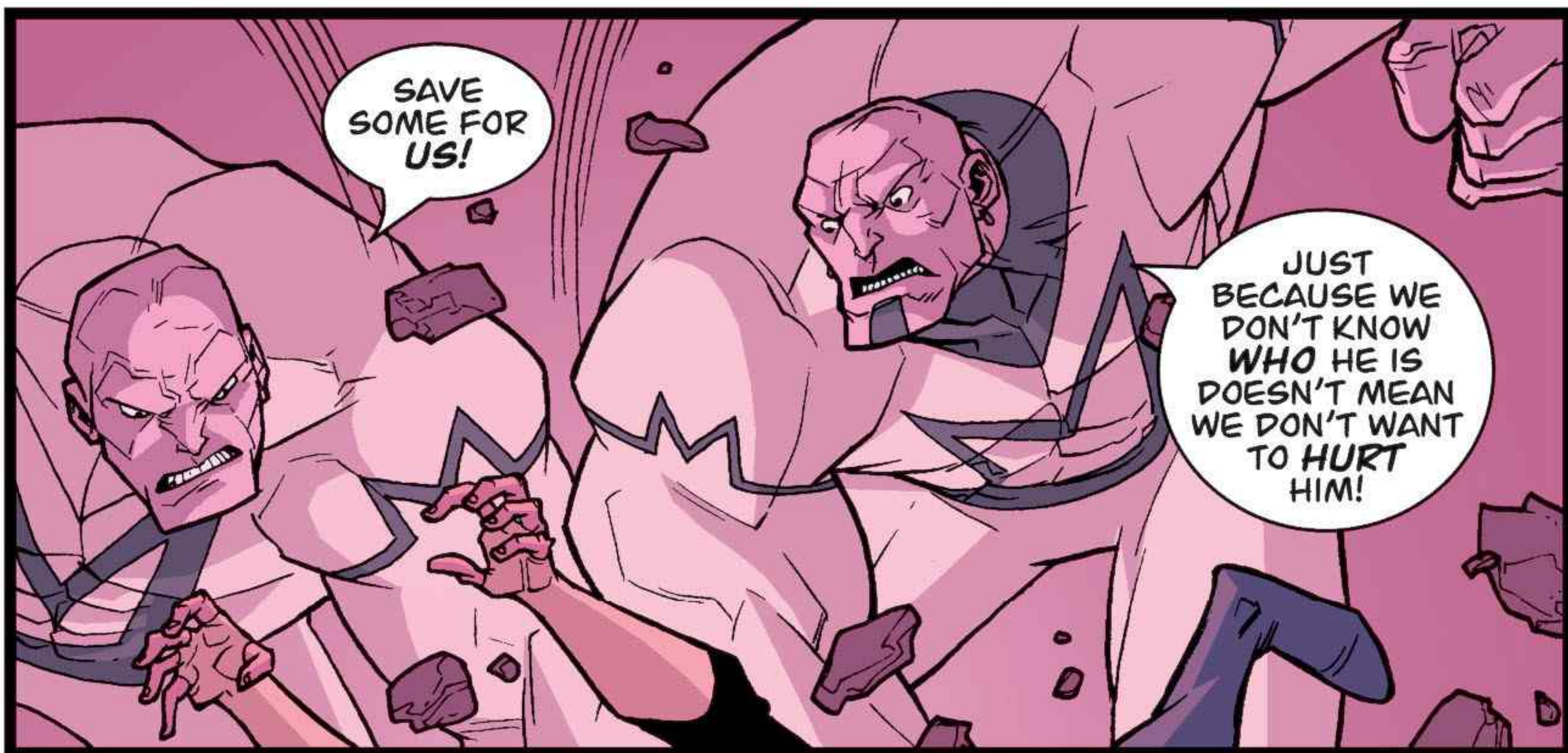


JUST-- KEEP HIM AWAY!! I CAN FEEL THE MACHINE WORKING--I CAN FEEL MY MIND-- EXPANDING!



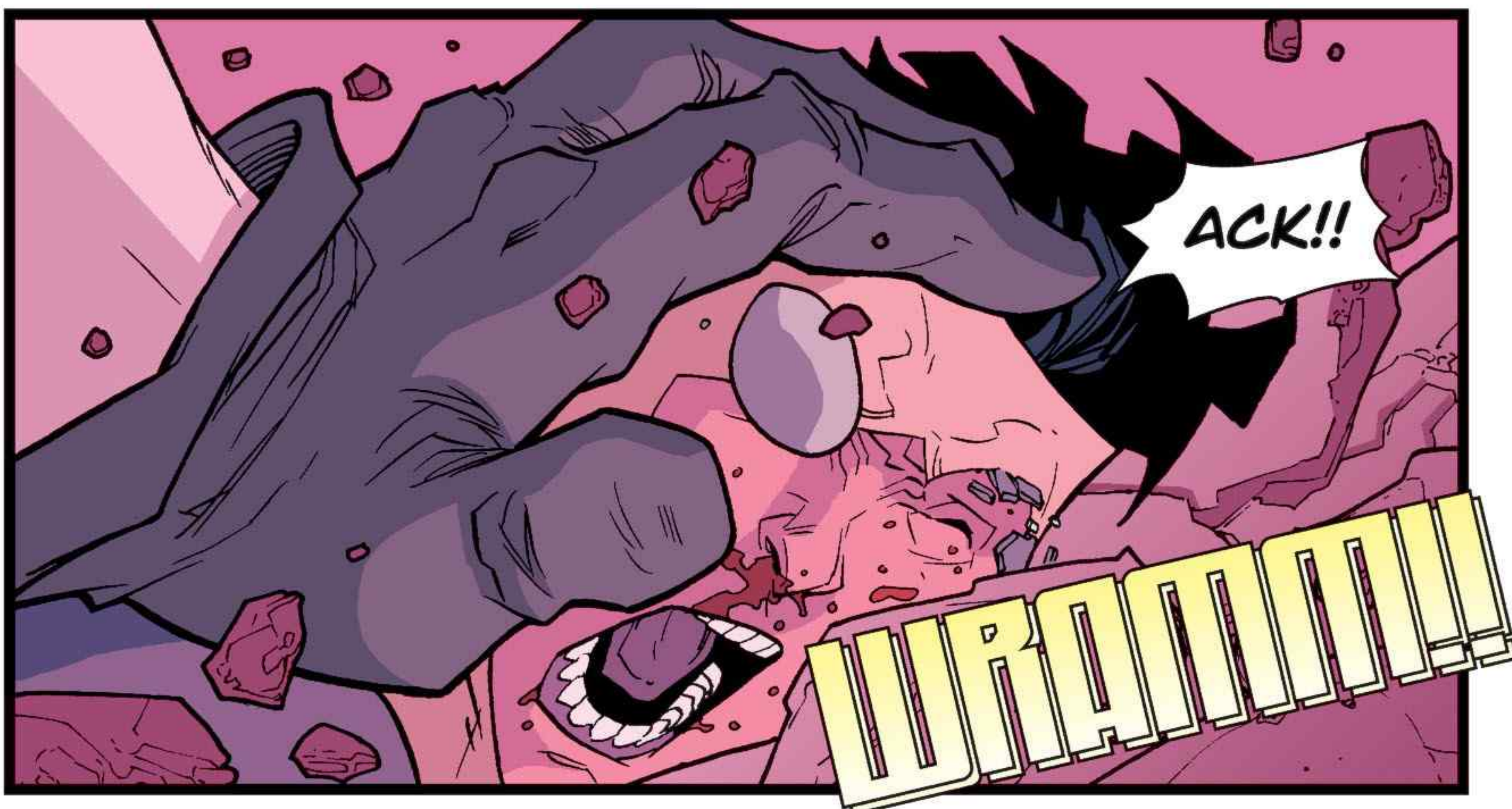
WE AIM TO PLEASE, BOSS!

CHOOOM!!!



SAVE SOME FOR US!

JUST BECAUSE WE DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS DOESN'T MEAN WE DON'T WANT TO HURT HIM!



ACK!!

WRRAAAMMM!!!



BACK OFF!!!



YOU THINK I CAN'T HURT YOU? YOU THINK I WON'T TRY? I WON'T LET YOU KILL ME!

STOP FIGHTING ME--OR BE READY FOR WHAT'S COMING. I PROMISE YOU I'VE BEEN HOLDING BACK!



WE WANT EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT, KID--GIVE IT TO US! DON'T HOLD BACK!

WE WELCOME THE CHALLENGE!



YOU ASKED FOR--

--IRK!!

QUICKLY--BEFORE HE BREAKS FREE!



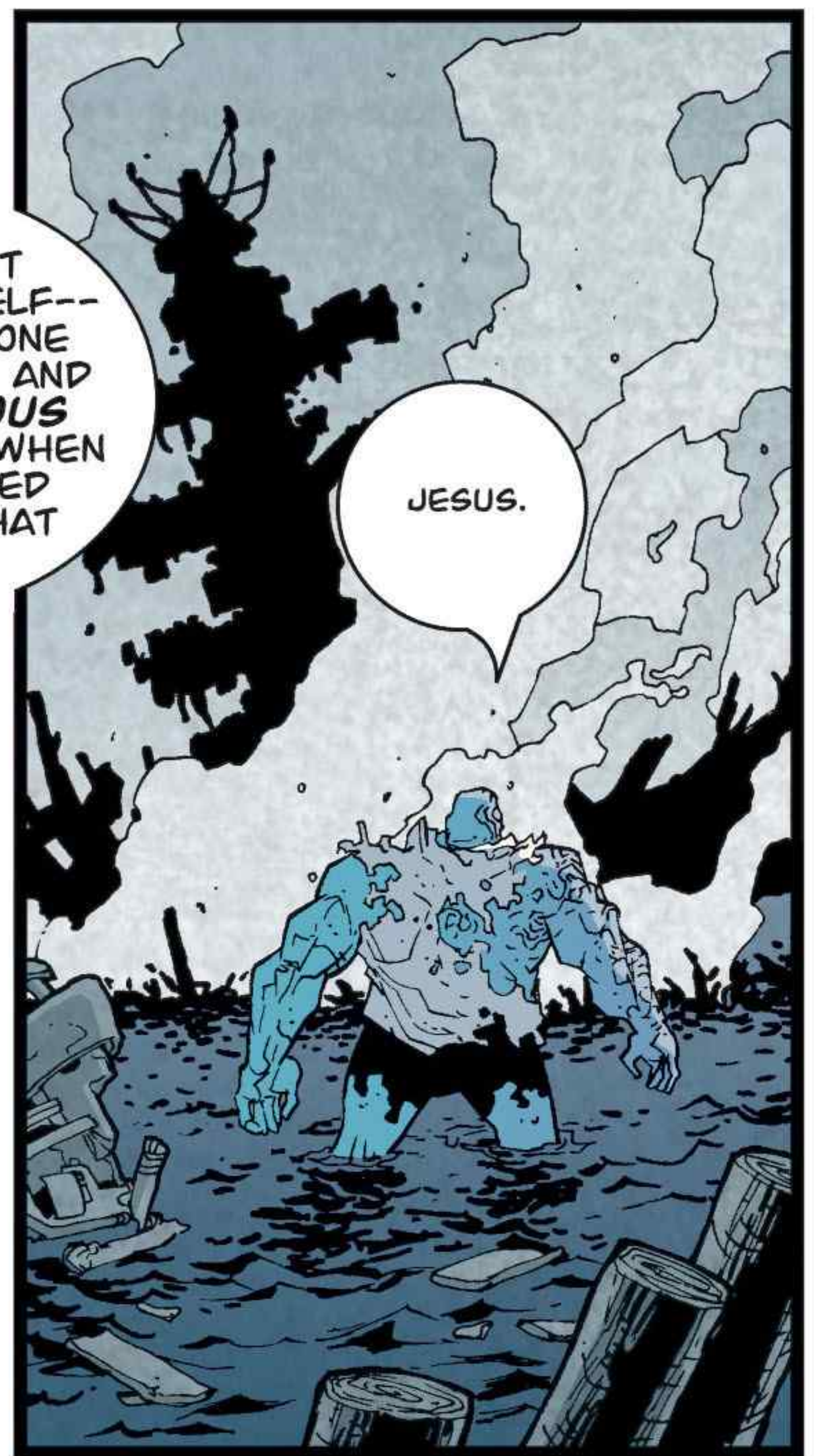
NOW!! ALL AT ONCE!! DON'T GIVE HIM TIME TO FIGHT BACK!



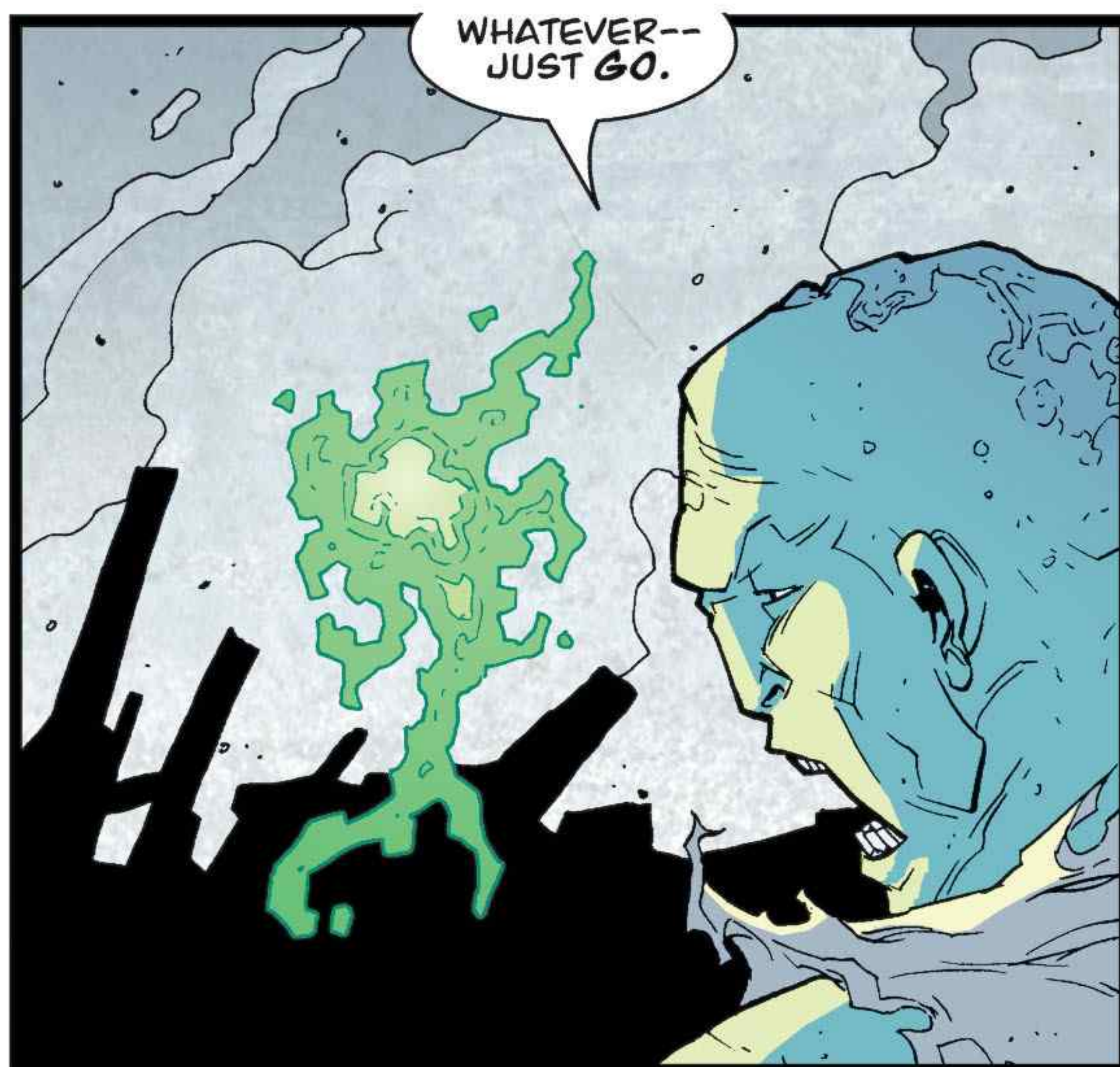
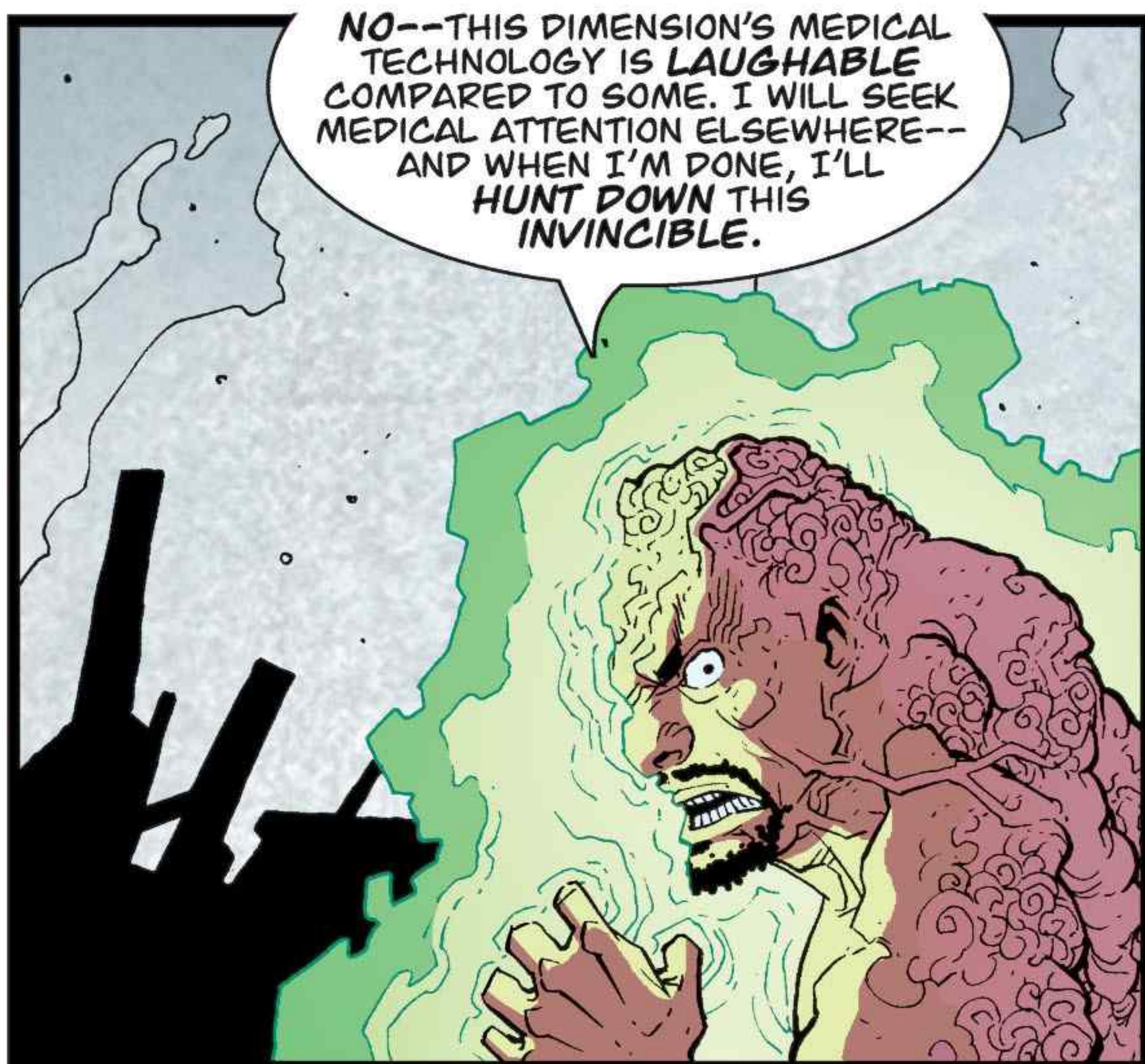












DON'T EVEN
THINK ABOUT
TAKING ME WITH
YOU. IT'S NOT
LIKE I NEED
ANY MEDICAL
ATTENTION OR
ANYTHING.

DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
ME.

JERK.



WRITE US @

INVINCIBLE
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P.O. BOX 54386
LEXINGTON, KY 40555-4386.

INVINCIBLE@FUNKOTRON.COM

PEN VINCIPALS

Invincible 24, dudes. Whoa, just one away from the big ish 25!! And this one even tied up a dangling plot thread (kinda)! Hope you guys dug this issue. Ryan, Bill, Rus and I sure did have a fun time doing it. Well, maybe not Bill... he's got a lot of work to do and he's been kinda stressed out lately. But Ryan, Rus and I had a blast.

So write in and tell us what you thought.

In other news. I just approved the printing proofs for the Invincible: Ultimate Collection hardcover. So that should be in stores NOW at the same time as this issue. It's a big, thick, book... full of all kinds of goodies, on top of issues 1-13. I know I've mentioned it here before, but you can never be too careful about this stuff. If you haven't gotten issues 1-13 or just want to read them again... it's a steal at \$34.95 and it makes an EXCELLENT gift. So pick it up. If for nothing else, pick it up for the introduction by Brian Michael Bendis.

Speaking of Brian, he had a little fun with me in the letters column of POWERS #11 by printing my phone number. Now, I've gotten a little TOO MANY phone calls from people and it's getting pretty old... so I figure I've got to do SOMETHING to retaliate... so I think I'll print a nice, OLD, photo of Brian from back when we both lived in Cleveland and he used to baby-sit me. Those were the days.



I win.

Now, it's an old photo and I had to have my mom scan it (which was a task in and of itself) so it may not print well... but I still wanted to share.

Before we dive into the mail I wanted to just remind you guys just how cool Invincible 25 is going to be. It's 48 pages, with a slightly longer main story by Ryan and I and a 12-page Science Dog story by Cory Walker and I and I'm also writing back-ups featuring The Immortal, Rex Splode, Dupli-Kate, Atom Eve, and Monster Girl that will be drawn by Cory Walker, Matthew Roberts, Joshua Luna, Khary Randolph, and Todd Nauck. It's going to be a swell issue, so make sure you don't miss it.

Now, let's not waste any more time. Let's answer some mail.

PENvinciPALS,

I love it, I love it, I love it! Best damn thing about issue #22 is the cyber-unicorn poster hanging in Amber's room! I thought that sketch Cory did was all we'd see of the bastard, but he's back! I'm liking the way you guys chose to pace the story, with the multiple panels and what not, it worked out well. And I'm glad to see Eve popping up again! I can start to see how all the loose ends are finally being spun together to be taken care of, issue 25's gonna be a blast!

- 1) Didn't look like Africa was too happy with Eve...I take it she'll be back eventually?
- 2) So how many people total now know Mark is Invincible? 8? 10?
- 3) The Reanimen, about time he got a name...speaking of, poor R.Sheri...

-Mike Storniolo

Yeah, you like the five panel rows now, but once you see how I'm doing them EVERY ISSUE how will you feel about them then? I can't stop--they're such an efficient way to enhance and expand talking head scenes... I've fallen in love. So they're here to stay.

- 1) Eventually... but Africa likes it just fine. They were a little scared at first but that quickly went away when they saw her results.
- 2) More like five.
- 3) Heh.

Dear Kirkman,

Issue 22 was great. I was actually READING the comic. So many books now use the pictures to tell the story way more than they should. It takes half an hour to get through an old sixteen page Stan Lee book, but only ten to get through a thirty-two page Bendis book.

Actually, the pictures SHOULD tell the story more than the words, but I get what you're saying. Thanks.

So here are the questions:

1. Not that it'll be up to you, but who would you like to play each character in the movie?

I'd like Haley Joel Osmet for Mark and maybe George Clooney for Nolan, but at this point there's not telling what could happen, so I don't really think about it much.

2. What's up with publishers putting the letters page before the end?

I assume you're talking about Marvel Team-Up. It's my understanding that advertisers always want that left hand page now since it's the surprise page and they can trick you into looking at least for a second (since we're all trained to ignore ads now). So if you want a story to end on the left hand page (like say, for a cliffhanger) you have to put the letters column before the end so you can use the last page in the book for the story. Does that make any sense? I don't think so.

3. Any chance of Battle Pope: Benedict XVI?

Nope.

4. How about a character archive in the back on an upcoming issue (like in TWD)? I'm forgetting names.

I'll see what I can do. In the meantime, just start paying more attention.

5. How do these books get away with no ads? Not that I'm complaining. It's weird not having anti-drug ads breaking up fight scenes. Besides, comics ARE my crack.

We don't sell ads, so we don't print ads. It's a very independent operation.

So keep the liberal amount of panels and words coming (hee hee, I said the L-word in a red state). I'm tired of dropping at least twenty every Wednesday only to spend a half hour on the books. I really should be buying crack...

Chris Pitts

You keep reading them and I'll keep making them take longer to read.

Robert,

I've never written to a comic writer before, and I believe this is a testament to your skill (or my laziness)... I've meant to many times before, and often regretted not writing in, because stuff I wanted to mention gets used by someone else...like in #22, when you stole my legs-falling-asleep-on-the-can bit, effectively negating what would have been an entire paragraph of this letter (probably for the best)... anyway... moving on to the questions, followed by brief praise.

1a) If the movie deal goes through (congratulations there, by the way), and you find yourself rolling around naked on a big pile of money, will you be lowering your Marvel workload, and focusing on stuff like this & walking dead, and maybe getting back to doing some BRIT and TECH JACKET?
I really enjoy working on my Marvel stuff. There will be more Brit and Tech Jacket soon but there's really no reason it has to be one or the other. I won't be abandoning my other characters forever, that's for sure.

2) I only ask this because, although you have been gaining a bendis-like reputation for volumes of quality, I am sick and tired of defending my reasons for preordering FF: Foes! Cause if I'm being honest, it's not your best stuff... script feels pretty rushed.... but I order it anyway, because I know it helps fund books like invincible, which remains one of the best books on the shelf... and hey, if Bendis kept his career going after those elektra issues he wrote, there's no reason for us to persecute you.

If Foes isn't your cup of tea, you've got my permission to stop buying it. I don't want anyone out there buying something they don't like just for my sake.

3) Jubilee was originally going to be ongoing, right? So, I know there was a bigger plan for this series than what you had to condense into a mini... is there any chance/way I could find out what you were going to do? Even shortened, it was one of the best minis Marvel's done in years, but it would have become a classic if it had been given time to percolate. (come on, a guy who can shoot people with his finger?? That's sweet!!)... but if I'm wrong and it was planned as a mini all along, well... you know, it was still pretty awesome, and I don't want to hear you talking about it like you're ashamed of it anymore...

Any time I've talked about it like I'm ashamed I was joking. I think Jubilee, oddly enough, was one of the best things I've done at Marvel and I still stand by it. I think I'm best at single-character continuing series and Jubilee is the only one I've gotten at Marvel so far. I'm not actually ashamed of anything I've done... not even Battle Pope. I just refuse to curb my sarcasm for the sake of the internet.

As for future plans on Jubilee... I probably would have had Shooter and Jubilee dating for a while, and have Jubilee drop out of high school and get more action in the book. The reveal that her Aunt was a cyborg would have had some ramifications and I would have eventually brought in Albert and Ellseedee to make the regular cast members--and if you don't know who THEY are... shame on you.

4) Finally: where does the garbage bag landing take place?? I originally got into this series after a friend lent me the first couple trades... started preordering, then read about this event in a letters column... I thought the trades I borrowed may have been missing a page, and bought up the first 12 issues from your booth at WW Chicago (which you were kind enough to sign for me, thanks again), except issue 5 which was provided to me by the fine folks at khepri.com.... I looked through again and can't find it... I'm a little embarrassed about this, but I can't take not being in on this joke

anymore... and the aforementioned laziness will not, at this time, allow me to filter through my comic piles to do another panel search.... so, will you tell me what issue it's in? Or just give me some kind of hint if you feel I have to earn it?

It's in issue 6... the burger mart bag... landing in England... it's a WHOLE PAGE. I don't know how you could miss it.

Anyways... keep up the good work and the arrested development quotes... I want to see this book continuing at least until mark's old enough to grow a groucho mustache like his dad.

Thanks,
Dan

I'll keep at it, but in the mean time... I just want my kids back.

(P.S. I know this is really long, so I won't be surprised if it doesn't see print, but if you have the time, I would like to hear your answers to at least some of these questions... however, as a bribe, if it does get printed, I'm sure i can get at least one other person to buy a copy... just think about it...)

I will be looking at our reorder activity closely and if our sales don't go up by at least ONE copy... you are in for SUCH a beating. I know, I know... you've made a HUGE mistake.

Hey gang,

I have to give HUGE props to the art team in regards to Invincible #22. You guys brought the good stuff like always. It seems like Robert Kirkman gets all the attention and I just wanted you guys (Ryan, Bill and Rus) are doing a kick ass job. This is one of, if not THE best looking comics on the stands.

If only one of those losers were here to answer the mail. I could FAKE it and act like Ryan's responding but that gag only works once... or twice.

For Kirkman, you get big ups for weaving all of these subplots along at a great pace throughout the issue. It was great to have the supporting cast take the spotlight, but still feeling the presence of our hero throughout the issue.

"Probably the best superhero comic book in the universe". Easily the best on Earth, I'll have to ask Allen the Alien about that.

-Jason Aiken, Pennsylvania

Allen dug the book... right up until last issue. I wouldn't ask him now.

Penvincipals,

I finally figured out how Robert Kirkman can write so many great titles in a variety of genres, read and compose massive letter columns, write a screenplay, deal with Hollywood, etc, and still have time to eat, breathe and sleep.

Robots right? You found out about the robots...

The giveaway was Angstrom Levy. Now we know that in one universe, Robert Kirkman is full-time on Invincible, in another, Walking Dead, etc. Recently a sub-cluster of universes was contacted where Robert Kirkman writes every Marvel title.

I'm writing ONE Marvel book right now (with more on the way--but still, it's just ONE right now... Marvel Team-Up, ask for it by name!)

Some questions:

1. Any chance of re-contacting the universe where you write Tech Jacket? I liked it a lot, and it should be up to #75 or so by now .

Actually it's probably only be at around issue 30, or at least, that's where it's at in a couple universes.

2. Do you just communicate the scripts via inter-universe email or hand-off actual physical material?

The hand off of physical material is the best part.

3. If the later, how much does a weekend in the all-woman univrse cost?

A lot more than money.

4. If this universe's Robert Kirkman is writing the Invincible screenplay, is there another universe where you're working on the Walking Dead movie?

That would be telling.

5. Obviously there's a universe where Science Dog is a cult favorite, has a TV show, etc. Stop being such a tease and release it in this universe, please!

There are problems with the contracts. I'll see what I can do.

Thanks for the great entertainment-your secret is safe with me-no one else is going to figure out that “Angstrom Levy” is a palindrome of “Robert Kirkman”.

Regards,
Raj Wall

Yeah--not until I print this letter!! D'oh! I've made a huge mistake.

Hey Kirkman, I just finished reading Invincible #0 and I'd like to say great work to you and Ryan and that Crabtree fellow along with Rus on the success of the series (I guess Cory Walker gets some credit too). I've been following the book since issue 4 and it's been exciting to see the progression of the story as well as the amount of fans and hype. The news of the possible Invincible movie is awesome as well, it's going to make us rich! You in the sense that you will actually become rich, and myself in the sense that I will sell the Invincible comics (I've got 'em all) on eBay for a lot of money which I can buy some new video games and comics with. My life is a vicious depressing cycle but don't feel bad I'm only 21.

Anyway, what prompted me to write was not the Invincible comic, but actually Invincible's appearance in "The Pact." I'm just going to say that Valentino could have at least gotten Mark's mom drawn correctly, I think! he drew Aunt May instead. I've got nothing nice to say about that first issue, but of course I'll get the others because they'll have Invincible and if I'm not mistaken you are writing the fourth issue. Feel free to kill off the new Shadowhawk.

I'm sorry you didn't like Jim's issue. I guess it just wasn't your cup of tea. I'd never kill ShadowHawk, though... I like the guy too much.

So that's all I have to say pretty much but I want you to know that Invincible kicks major ass and Ryan's artwork is terrific, same goes for Crabtree and Wooton. The Walking Dead kicks ass too but that's a different letter for a different time. Also, if I draw a kick ass pin-up of Invincible and it looks decent could I send it to you and get you to put it in your book (or at least hang it on your wall by your desk)? Or does one have to be in "the biz" to get things like that going on. Whatever man, you think your so cool, bastard.

-JJ

I'm having to cut back on pin-ups not that I'll be filling up the book with Capes back-ups (more on that later). In the past I've printed a few stinkers, so I'm trying to be a little more discriminating with the pin-ups now that space is limited. What I'm getting at is that you don't have to be in “the biz” your pin-up just has to be really good.

Dudes,

Invincible #22 and #0 made my month. With this series, I started off buying the trades because back issues of this title are expensive, which was sad since I wanted to start buying it monthly. Finally after vol.4 was released I could catch up with the monthly title. Not only did I catch up, but you released extra, (more or less) new material within a week of issue #22! That is class bros. I also dig the way that all the trades have sitcom names from my childhood, keep that up. I've tried to think of what this newest storyline will be titled in vol. 5...maybe "Who's the Boss?" eh...maybe not. I'm also down with Mark being the same age as me, when I picked it up we were both 17, now we're both 19ish (I'm guessing on Mark) it's like the old school Spidey comics where Peter Parker actually graduates from high school in less than 5 years.

Mark is still only 18. He turned 18 in issue 9 and hasn't had a birthday since. He'll age... but not in real time. We'll eventually

see Mark in his mid-twenties but that's a LONG ways off. Things will advance, but I'm taking my time.

Anyway, you all make an awesome book that I'm happy to spend my college tuition money on.

Keep up the radness,
-Caleb Goellner

PS. There should totally be Invincible action figures, get on it or I will.

Get on it and I'll SUE! Ha! No plans for action figures yet, but that could change tomorrow... I have spoken to people about it...

Kirkman,

I hate you.

I really really hate you.

I'm debating reading the rest of this letter already.

Due to the fact I'm spending waaaaaay too much money on comics, I decided to drop some titles from my pull list (had to make some room for Seven Soldiers.. damn you Morrison!).

Feh--Seven Soldiers...

Basically I gave each title 2 months to impress me or get axed, and after getting on a roll dropping all Ultimate titles I came across Walking Dead 18 and Invincible 22.

Walking Dead 18 amazed me with the series' best issue since.. well, #16 :) But seriously now, your exploration of capital punishment in a broken society in which death is always a step behind was brilliant. **Thank you.**

And now to Invincible... while I did enjoy the last few issues I have to admit that it felt like you're losing steam. I know that after the big change in the status quo you had to slowly rebuild Mark's life, but it seemed as if the series is stepping in place. Boy was I wrong :) With the Angstrom Levy/Mauler Twins story about to explode (if you're doing a Crisis on Infinite Earths-ish story with Angstrom.. man, that would be so cool), the Reaniman and the Martian Guy (aren't Ryan and Cory pissed? I mean, they're the only two guys that don't have characters named after them.. although Cory did influence Shaff :) I have to admit that I'm once again hooked. Should've never doubted you.

And as for Amber and Mark.. let's just say that Invincible 22 reminded me of Ultimate Spidey 13, and in a really good way :) **(sigh)**

So that's 2 more series I'm buying and \$6 less to spend... damn you Kirkman!..

By the way, Rus is god. You Claremonted that issue and the man handled it like a pro. He deserves the praise. **(well, he IS a pro.)**

Now if I could just get this letter printed, I'll finish my big three: Powers, Walking Dead and now - Invincible. I'm counting on you Kirkman. Don't let me down.

That's all.
Be good now,
Shlomo Roman

There, letter printed. The holy trinity is complete.

Way back when, when I first saw Invincible on the stands, I didn't give the book any thought. The teen super-hero thing had been done to death. Then, a few months ago, I got an amazon.com gift certificate. I read some reviews of the trade paperbacks online. I figured I would give it a shot. I got the 1st trade. The day I got it, I read it cover to cover. I could not put it down. The writing is just phenomenal. The humor you put into the series really makes it work. A lot of books try, but fail. You succeed. I am hooked on the book. I bought the 2nd and 3rd TPBs as well, read them straight through. I just picked up my first issue off the shelf, #22.

I can't wait for the next issue.

I was wondering if you know how someone could purchase original art

from the book. Thanks, and keep up the great work.

John

If anyone is interested in purchasing any original art from the series, send a list of pages you're interested in (page # and issue #) to the email address for this book and I will forward the email to Ryan Ottley or Cory Walker and you can discuss prices and availability with them. It's a painless process and I'm sure they'd both be happy to sell you whatever you want.

Penvincipals,

I like Amber.

At first I didn't like her because I felt Mark should be getting on with Eve, not wasting his time with this - clever, sweet, clearly very attractive - bimbo. After reading #22 and #0 I realize that I was wrong: she's a great girl! It was nice to have her take up a lot of the story... even if she did nearly blow Invincible's secret identity to her friend! It was nice to see Eve too. I thought after she left that we weren't going to see her for a while, but I liked her brief appearance, doing what she set out to do. Lots of arcs are in motion at the moment and I eagerly wait to see how they pan out!

Where is it that people get the impression that Amber is a BIMBO? She gave a guy a NOTE in High School... that stuff happens all the time. It's not like she was nailing him right off the bat. She even waited until they were in college. I'm glad issue 22 is making people come around and like her.

And Robert, don't worry if Simon Pegg is the only celebrity you know, he's one of the funniest men on the planet. I wish I knew him! Another great issue.

Simon Pegg ain't all he's cracked up to be. If you want a guy emailing you non-stop bragging about getting to go on the set of Land of the Dead, reading the script early, and getting to go to the premier, sure. He emailed me the other day to brag about meeting George Lucas... the bastard.

John Turner

P.S. Ryan: Look! None of my crazy typos or foreign spelling!

Nice... inside joke... that's worth valuable space in a letters column. I love juice.

Hey Rob, Ryan, Bill, and Rus,

How's it going? I gotta tell you, I love your comic. I work at a comic book store in Pennsylvania called Golden Eagle Comics (Shameless plug). One day about a year ago I was doing some inventory checking and ran across Invincible # 5. I thought the cover looked kind of cool and thumbed through it. After taking a look inside and thinking it was cool but I didn't have alot of money to spend I decided to put it back on the shelf. Anyhow, Walking Dead # 1 came out and I am a huge zombie fan so I started picking that up every month and really enjoyed it. One of my co-workers had been reading Invincible all along and suggested I give it a try so he loaned me all his issues (It was up to 12 then). I read up to 6 and thought, it's pretty decent and kind of original but I wasn't quite sold. At issue 7 I was surprised by the murder of the guardians of the globe and like everyone else (from the sounds of it) thought Omni-man was being controlled or something. By issue 12 I was hooked and yet again forced to shell out hard earned cash for more of your books. But you weren't through with me at just that....oh no. I tell everyone who comes into our store to check out something you wrote (usually Invincible and walking dead). I've probably gotten at least 15 people reading Invincible and/or Walking Dead regularly. One thing I have always hated seeing in comics (especially over at the other company you write for) is the magically appearing story line. I will describe what I mean for those who don't read minds. I hate when a writer starts a story arc by making up stuff that now has happened in the past that we didn't know about before (which usually doesn't make any sense) and then introduces characters we'll never see again as well as make people act suddenly upset about things that never seemed to bother them before that issue. What I basically mean is, there's no intra-book continuity. I appreciate that your comics have that covered very well. Nothing ever just happens, everything builds and so when something big occurs I find myself going back through the issues and seeing that you had been setting it up for a long while.

Needless to say I enjoy your comics, especially Invincible, very much. I hope they continue to do well and if I can get any other people hooked on them I'm sure I will. I do have some questions though.

1. What comics at image are in the same universe as Invincible?

Eh, I think Wildguard and Noble Causes for sure. Probably Jack Staff... Savage Dragon...kinda. SuperPatriot (the one's I wrote) for sure. Brit, Tech Jacket, and Capes are the only ones that absolutely take place in the same world because those were the ones I could control. Image is very loose. When the books crossover it's the same world, but events in the other books don't have to affect each other. Make sense? Didn't think so.

2. Have any of your characters appeared in any of the other books, if so which issues? (I already know about Capes, The Pact, Noble Causes, Brit, Savage Dragon, and Super Patriot: War on Terror)

The Immortal briefly appears in Wildguard: Fools Gold (advertised on the back of this very issue). Either issue 1 or 2... I can't remember. There's more but I can't keep track of it all. I'm sure there's a list online somewhere.

3. Is Ryan Ottley really only 16 and is he actually Mormon? (I'm a Mormon as well and it was kind of cool to hear.)

Ryan is a Morman... and he just turned 17, so no, he's NOT really only 16.

4. Is Ryan going to be doing any other projects soon?

I friggin' hope not.

5. Will we be seeing Omni-man again soon, maybe the next 5 issues?

No. Sorry, that's not going to happen for a WHILE. When it does, it'll be huge, though... so don't worry.

6. Has MegaForce ever showed up anywhere in this book or any other, will they?

MegaForce is Jay Faerber's creation. They've appeared in Noble Causes a few times.

Anyhow, I love the comic. The 50-cent issue was great and I'm glad to see Mark and Amber's relationship progressing. I didn't like her character at first but you've really fleshed her out. I love Ryan's art on the book. It fits the tone of the book so well. I always like to look through each panel to check for any little jokes in the background. I think I've seen Jay and Silent Bob and Bill and Ted, the high school girls at the college. I haven't caught as many recently. There was the RULDS2 license plate in issue 9. Good times. (Ryan doesn't hide much stuff in his pages like Cory used to) I also like the vibrant colors that Bill uses through out the comic they are top notch. And Rus, the lettering looks good, but honestly, I don't think I'm very clear on everything a letterer does. Maybe you guys can enlighten me. (They put the balloons and sound effects on the pages--those things don't make themselves) Thank you guys for putting out the best comic book in the universe.

Steve Cambria

Thanks for the letter Steve--NO TOUCHING!

That'll do it for this month, hope you guys liked the issue, and again, make sure you come back next month for the big issue twenty-five!

This month's pin-up by Kelly Yates

Also, you'll see a nice full page ad for CAPES back-ups that will be starting in issue 26. This is an all new story that takes place after CAPES 1-3 (probably floating around the quarter bin at a retailer near you) but it should be pretty accessible for anyone who read Invincible 17. They'll be six pages each, written by me with art by Mark Englert. They're going to be a blast, so be on the look out.

With that, I'll leave you to your business. See you in a month.

-Robert Kirkman

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